



Office of the Mayor
City of Seattle
Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

Executive Order: 02-08
Restrictions on Bottled Water

An Executive Order, directing that after December 31, 2008, City of Seattle funds may no longer be used to purchase bottled water. To reduce the environmental impacts of bottled water, the Executive Order directs departments to eliminate the purchase and use of single-serving and large-volume bottled water dispensers in most circumstances, given the high-quality municipal water available.

WHEREAS, Americans bought a total of 31.2 billion liters of water in 2006 sold in bottles, mostly made of polyethylene terephthalate (PET), requiring nearly 900,000 tons of the plastic produced from fossil fuels; and,

WHEREAS, in 2006 it is estimated that producing the bottles for American consumption required the equivalent of more than 17 million barrels of oil, not including the energy for transportation, requiring 3 liters of water to produce each single liter of bottled water, and producing more than 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle, Seattle Public Utilities, provides some of the highest-quality water in the nation equal to or exceeding the quality of bottled water; and,

WHEREAS, the average price for bottled water is approximately \$1 per pint (16 oz.) bottle or \$8 per gallon and the average price for Seattle water is only 1/3 of 1 cent a gallon; and,

WHEREAS, bottled water is approximately 2,400 times more expensive than tap water; and,

WHEREAS, on February 16, 2005, I launched the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement to advance the goals of the Kyoto Protocol to address climate disruption by enacting policies and programs to meet or beat the greenhouse gas emission reduction target suggested for the United States in the Kyoto Protocol -- 7% reduction from 1990 levels by 2012,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREGORY J. NICKELS, Seattle Mayor, do encourage all City of Seattle employees to take advantage of the City of Seattle's pristine water supply and order that, after December 31, 2008, City funds no longer be used to purchase bottled water for use in City of Seattle facilities or at City of Seattle events.

FURTHERMORE, City implementation guidelines will be developed by the Fleets and Facilities Department.

FURTHERMORE, upon request, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) will inspect water quality at City of Seattle facilities;

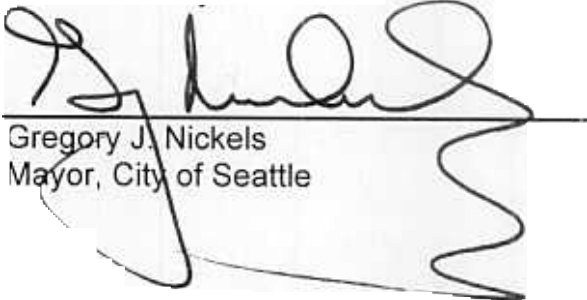
FURTHERMORE, by September 30, 2008, the Fleets and Facilities Department, or other departments responsible for managing specific City of Seattle facilities, will conduct an assessment for phasing out and replacing bottled water dispensers with the most environmentally responsible alternative that addresses any water-quality issues that may exist in some facilities.

FURTHERMORE, exceptions may be made to this policy, in cases where there are no reasonable alternatives to access safe drinking water; when there are hydration requirements for employees working outside of City facilities; or other legal or other contractual reasons are present.

FURTHERMORE, SPU will develop and execute an education campaign for City of Seattle employees and SPU customers on the economic and environmental benefits of drinking water from the City's water supply and moving away from bottled water.

For inquiries regarding this Executive Order please contact SPU at 684-5800, option 2.

Dated this 13th day of March, 2008



Gregory J. Nickels
Mayor, City of Seattle